

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE  
AND REFER TO



WASHINGTON

E  
MAPS, R-3, Lincoln  
Geographic Names

December 6, 1943

The Director  
U. S. Board on Geographical Names  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DEC 8 1943

Dear Dr. Burrill:

U. S. BOARD ON  
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

With further reference to your letter of October 22, to which I made partial reply on October 25: I now have a report from the Regional Forester at Albuquerque containing information obtained from the local officers of the Forest Service. As stated in my letter of October 25, the Guadalupe Mountains are a separate range from the Sacramento Mountains. They are never considered, in local usage, as a part of the Sacramento Mountains.

In local usage, Sacramento Mountains are considered as extending from about T. 20 S. north to the gap through which Highway 70 runs, and to apply to both east and west slopes from the crest. In answer to your question b, the name is not limited to the western slope. The name is considered as applying as far north as the country draining from the south into the Rio Tularosa on the western slope and into the Rio Ruidoso on the eastern slope.

White Mountains and Jicarilla Mountains each have sufficient identity so that there is no confusion with or overlapping by the name Sacramento Mountains, in local usage. White Mountains are considered as extending north (from the northern limit of Sacramento Mountains as above indicated) to the low pass in T. 8 S., traversed by the railroad and road from Carrizozo to Capitan. The name Sierra Blanca is almost never used with reference to the range, but the English term White Mountains is applied to it. The term Sierra Blanca is used locally with reference to the high peak in the range, which is also locally referred to as Old Baldy. That peak is usually snow covered from early fall to late spring.

There seems to be some confusion and overlapping, in local usage, of mountain range names north of the White Mountains as above described. Some use Tucson Mountains, Patos Mountains and Jicarilla Mountains as separate terms and when this is the case the south limit of Jicarilla Mountains is understood to be about the middle of T. 6 S., roughly along the road from White Oaks to Reventon, but no equally clear-cut understanding exists as to the division

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line between Patos Mountains and Tucson Mountains - there probably is little need, locally, for such a clear-cut division. These northern mountains are not as high as the crest of the Sacramento Mountains or as Sierra Blanca in the White Mountains. There is little if any local usage of Jicarilla Mountains as extending south to the northern limit of the White Mountains.

As stated in my letter of October 25, Capitan Mountains are considered as distinct. In local usage, Capitan Mountains are considered as extending eastward from about the middle of T. 8 S., R. 14 E., or from the road crossing of the divide almost due north of Capitan some 5 or 6 miles.

The names Guadalupe and Jicarilla are given the Spanish pronunciation, in local usage, as previously reported to you.

Sincerely yours,

LYLE F. WATTS, Chief

By *E. E. Carter* Acting

E. E. CARTER

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